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MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GULF COAST

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

SANDERSON, MISS., BAPTIST CHURCH,

June 19th (afternoon) 20th, 1878.

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1878.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

HANDSBORO, MISS., June 13, 1879.

Morning Session:

The Gulf Coast Baptist Association was called to order in the Handsboro Baptist church, at 9:30 a.m., by Clerk M. B. Richmond, in the absence of Dr. N. G. Wilson, deceased, former Moderator.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Eld. T. J. Walne.

Upon motion of Eld. Hamberlin, Eld. Couch was elected temporary Moderator, when the business of the Association was proceeded with.

Letters from the churches were called for, and, upon motion, Breth. Hamberlin and Pearce were requested to read the same. The following churches were represented, and the following messengers were present:

CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS:

BAY ST. LOUIS—W. A. Whitfield, V. C. Whitfield.
BETHANY—By letter.
BILOXI—Eld. J. B. Hamberlin, G. B. Elder.
BROAD STREET—M. G. Hudson.
COLISEUM PLACE—Eld. W. H. Tucker.
FIRST CHURCH—Eld. M. C. Cole.
HANDSBORO—J. T. Liddle, W. R. Washington.
MOSS POINT—M. A. Dees.
OCEAN SPRINGS—Sherwood Davis, Lyman Bradford.
PALMETTO STREET—Eld. Z. A. Owens, R. L. Maupin, George A. Pearce.
SCRANTON—M. B. Richmond.
ST. FRANCIS STREET—Eld. J. O'B. Lowry, Eld. A. B. Couch, D. Dabbs, E. F. Horton.
UNION—By letter.

Upon motion proceeded to elect permanent officers.

Eld. Lowry was nominated for Moderator. There being no opposition, Bro. Pearce was requested to cast the ballot. Eld. Lowry was unanimously elected.

M. B. Richmond was put in nomination for Clerk. No other name being presented, Eld. Hamberlin was requested to cast the vote. Bro. Richmond was thereupon elected unanimously.

Breth. A. H. Nelson and G. A. Pearce were put in nomination for Treasurer. Bro. Nelson was elected.

It was moved that a committee of three be appointed by the Moderator to take into consideration the question of allowing women to represent churches as messengers in this Association.

Eld. Hamberlin moved to amend by adding two names. Carried.

Committee—Elds. Couch and Tucker, Breth. Dees, Maupin and Eld. Hamberlin.

PETITIONARY LETTER.

The following petitionary letter was received and read, and messenger welcomed.

MANDEVILLE—M. J. Sharp.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Upon motion, visiting brethren were invited to seats within the Association. The following brethren came forward and were welcomed by the Moderator: Eld. T. J. Walne, Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board of the Mississippi Baptist State Convention; Elds. A. F. Owens and Taylor Fryerson, of the Seacoast Colored Baptist Association.

On motion the Moderator appointed Eld. Hamberlin and the deacons of Handsboro church a Committee on Religious Exercises.

No objection being made, the order of business of last session was adopted as follows:

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Report of the Executive Committee.
2. Introductory sermon, Friday, at 7:30 p.m.
3. Report of Committee on Home Missions.
4. Report of Committee on Foreign Missions.
5. Report of Committee on Sunday-schools.
6. Report of Committee on Relations with the Colored People.

Report of Executive Committee called for. Not being ready granted further time.

Report of Committee on Home Missions called for. Granted time, committee not being ready.

Report of Committee on Foreign Missions was read, discussed by the brethren, and adopted. [See Appendix A.]

On motion of Eld. Hamberlin, while Hymn No. 101 was being sung Breth. Cole and Owens took up a collection for Foreign Missions; $5 25 was collected. Also obtained five subscribers to the Foreign Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

Eld. Lowry to preach Associational Sermon to-night, Eld. Walne preach Saturday night, Eld. Cole preach at 11 a.m. Sunday, Eld. Tucker preach Sunday night, Eld. Couch preach at the colored Baptist church Sunday, at 3 p.m.

Adjourned at 12 m. to meet at 3 p.m.

Afternoon Session:

FRIDAY, June 13, 1879.

The Moderator called the Association to order at 3 p.m. Prayer by Eld. Owens.

Minutes of morning session read, corrected and approved.

Report of Committee on Sunday-schools called for. None of the committee being present, Bro. Pearce moved a committee of three on Sunday-schools be appointed. Adopted.

Committee—Breth. Pearce, Liddle, Davis.

By Eld. Hamberlin—

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Missions are requested to consider the propriety of attempting missionary labor in the Island of Cuba. Adopted.

Upon motion the Moderator appointed a Nominating Committee as follows: Eld. Hamberlin, Breth. Dabbs and W. A. Whitfield.

Moved that a Finance Committee of three be appointed.

Committee—Breth. Dees, Bradford and Washington.

The committee on receiving women as messengers in this Association submitted their report. [See Appendix B.]

Report of Committee on Home Missions was read by Eld. Owens, received and discussed at length. [See Appendix C.]

Bro. Pearce, treasurer, read his report, which was adopted.

GEO. A. PEARCE, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GULF COAST BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1878.	DEBITS.		
May 27,	To amount from former Treasurer	$ 82 15	
	To amount collections on night of 25th, for Mississippi Coast Missions	107 20	
—	To amount of E. F. Horton, ch'man of Finance Committee	49 05	
	To amount of Biloxi church	2 00	
	To amount of Handsboro church	3 05	$243 45
1878.	CREDITS.		
May 27,	By amount paid T. J. Walne, on M. B. Richmond's order, on account of his pay as clerk. (Voucher No. 1.)	5 00	
	By amount paid T. J. Rowan, amount collections for Coast Missions. (Voucher No. 2.)	107 20	
May 30,	By amount paid T. J. Walne, for Mississippi, amount as provided for in report of Executive Committee at Association. (Voucher No. 3.)	21 28	
May 31,	By amount paid T. M. Baily, for Alabama, amount as provided for in report of Executive Committee at Association. (Voucher No. 4)	51 27	
June 26,	By amount paid J. B. Hamberlin, on M. B. Richmond's order, balance due him for services as clerk of the Association. (Voucher No. 5)	10 00	
July 31,	By amount paid Mayers & Richmond, for printing minutes $23 00, postage $1 25. (Voucher No. 6)	24 25	$219 00
	Balance on hand and deposited in bank of Thos. P. Miller & Co., Mobile,		$24 45

Mobile, June 12, 1879. GEO. A. PEARCE, Treasurer.

At 5 p.m. adjourned to meet at 9:30 a.m. to-morrow.

ASSOCIATION SERMON.

At 8 o'clock Friday night a large congregation assembled in the Baptist church house to listen to the introductory sermon by Eld. Lowry, as per previous announcement. His text was: "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit, than he that taketh a city."—Prov. XVI. 32. In this sermon Bro. Lowry sustained the well-earned reputation as an eloquent, forcible and erudite preacher of the Truth, and the congregation sat with fixed attention to the close, evincing a deep concern in the subject expounded.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Morning Session.

SATURDAY, June 14, 1879.

Met at 9 a.m. and engaged in devotional exercises half an hour, conducted by Eld. Cole.

At 9:30 a.m. Association called to order by the Moderator.

Bro. Pearce moved that a committee of three on obituaries be appointed.

Committee—Eld. Cole, Breth. Sharp and Horton.

Moved that Bro. Jos. Gresham, of the Chickasawha Association, be invited to a seat in this body.

Report of the Executive Board called for. Asked for further time, which, upon motion, was granted.

Report of Committee on Sunday-schools was read by Bro. Pearce, which, after a full discussion was adopted. [See Appendix D.]

Report of the Executive Board was taken up, read and adopted. See Appendix E.]

It was moved that a committee on time and place of next meeting, and to select brethren to preach association sermons, be appointed. Adopted.

Committee—Elds. Tucker and Owens, and Bro. G. W. Davis.

Report of Committee on our Relations to the Colored People was taken up. Upon motion action was deferred until the afternoon to enable the committee to complete the report.

Committee on Time and Place made its report, which was adopted, as follows:

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING AND SERMON.

Your Committee on Time, Place and Association Sermon respectfully recommend that the Association meet on Friday, before the fourth Sabbath in April, 1880, with the Coliseum Place church, in New Orleans, and that Eld. J. B. Hamberlin preach the Association sermon, with Eld. J. O'B. Lowry as alternate.

W. H. TUCKER, Chairman.

Upon motion the name of Eld. Z. A. Owens was substituted for that of Eld. Lowry.

It was moved that messengers be appointed to represent this Association in corresponding bodies. Adopted.

Messengers were appointed by the Moderator as follows:

To Mississippi State Convention—Elds. Hamberlin, Tucker and Cole.

Alabama State Convention—Elds. Owens, Couch and Bro. Pearce; and by motion, Eld. Lowry.

Bethlehem Association—Eld. Couch.

Hobolochitto Association—Eld. Hamberlin, Breth. Dees and W. A. Whitfield.

Chickasawha Association—Eld. Owens.

Seacoast Colored Baptist Association—Eld. Hamberlin and Bro. Spence.

Adjourned at 12 m. to meet at 3 p.m.

Prayer by Bro. Gresham.

Afternoon Session.

Association met at 3 p.m.

Sung hymn No. 8. Prayer by Bro. C. Taylor.

Minutes of morning session read, corrected and approved.

Report of the Committee on Relation to Colored People was read by Eld. Couch and received. Pending discussion upon the subject a letter from the Seacoast Colored Baptist Association was read, received and, on motion, ordered printed in the minutes. [See Appendix F.] At conclusion of the discussion by the brethren the report was adopted. [See Appendix G.]

The Finance Committee submitted their report, which was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Gulf Coast Baptist Association:

BRETHREN—Your Committee as appointed yesterday on Finances submits the following:

For minutes	$36 50
For Gulf Coast Missions—Broad Street church, Mobile, $10; Bay St. Louis, $1; Moss Point church, $2 50; collections by Eld. Hamberlin, $17;	30 50
Collections for Foreign Missions yesterday	5 25
For subscription to Foreign Mission Journal	2 50
Total	$74 75

Respectfully submitted, M. A. DEES, Chairman.

The Moderator announced the following committee, to report at next meeting, upon admission of women as messengers to this Association: Elds. Hamberlin, Tucker and Owens.

The report of Committee on Nominations was read and adopted. [See Appendix H.]

RESOLUTIONS.

By Eld. Owens—

Resolved, That the treasurer of this Association be and is hereby instructed to pay over to Eld. Hamberlin, for missionary services, the funds now on hand and

what may be collected for missionary purposes at this meeting of the Association. Adopted.

By Bro. Pearce—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association are hereby tendered the brethren and citizens of Handsboro for the many kind courtesies extended to the messengers and visiting brethren, and for the handsome entertainments given.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered the officers of the New Orleans and Mobile railroad company for courtesies shown in reduction of railroad fare. Adopted.

By Eld. Hamberlin—

Resolved, That our Executive Committee on Association Missions is hereby authorized to co-operate with any other missionary body in the work of missions within our own boards, or to carry on the same alone, as, in any case, may seem to be most expedient. Adopted.

Committee on Obituaries reported, which was adopted. [See Appendix J.]

Moved that $25 be allowed for printing the minutes, and that the Clerk be allowed $15 for his services. Adopted.

The Moderator being compelled to leave on to-night's train, it was moved that Eld. Couch preside as Moderator until final adjournment. Adopted.

Adjourned to meet at 8 p.m. Sung long-meter Doxology.

Evening Session.

Association called to order by Eld. Couch at 8 p.m. Prayer by Eld. Cole.

Letter from Bethany church was brought in by Bro. M. G. Hudson, which was read.

After which the evening's services were conducted by Eld. Walne, in behalf of State missions.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Morning Session:

SUNDAY, June 15, 1879.

Association called to order at 10 a.m. by Eld. Couch.

On motion adjourned to time and place of next meeting.

APPENDIX.

[A.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions respectfully submits the following report:

It is our belief that when Christ said, "Go, ye, therefore, and teach *all* nations, He did not mean that His disciples should restrict their efforts to home work alone. And while we would not disparage, in any way, the great and good work under the management of the Home Mission Board, our State Boards, or the Executive Committee of our own body, we would strongly urge the importance of sustaining the efforts of our brethren who are laboring in foreign lands.

When we are reminded of the sacrifice made by the noble brethren and sisters who have given up home, loved ones, friends and country, for the purpose of carrying the "Good News" to the benighted men and women in heathen lands, we are compelled to ask ourselves, "are we willing that they should suffer while we are blessed with so many comforts and conveniences.

Glorious news has come to this land; and we have heard of hundreds, yea, thousands, who have been converted and baptized into the several Baptist churches under the care of our foreign missionaries, and it is said that the largest Baptist church in the world is composed of converted heathen.

There are in foreign mission fields some 3000 missionaries and 20,000 native laborers. There are some 300,000 converts, and about one and a half million persons have forsaken their idols. In the last year some 15,000 heathen have been converted. The expense for carrying on the work in foreign fields is comparatively less than in home work, and the result is a larger number of converts in proportion to the work done. The Board in charge of this work for the Southern Baptist Convention claims that if Southern Baptists would give 10 cts. each they would have an abundance to increase the work.

In answer to our inquiry for the contributions of the churches in this Association, during the past year, we have received answers as follows: First church, New Orleans, $23 60; Coliseum Place church, New Orleans, $163 70; Handsboro church, $14 50; Ocean Springs church, $9 60; Palmetto street church, Mobile, $142 35; Scranton church, $4 85; St. Francis street church, Mobile, $100. Total $558 60.

The membership of our churches as reported last year numbers 1171, therefore the contributions of the Baptists in this Association far exceeds the amount "per capita" asked for by the Board of Foreign Missions. This is encouraging, nevertheless we feel that more can and should be done by our churches.

In conclusion we would urge upon our churches the duty before them in regard to our foreign work. And, further, of the importance of the permanent appointment of a chairman of the Committee on Foreign Missions, whose duty it shall be to keep our churches informed, and to seek regular contributions for the advancement of our foreign missions.

HENRY C. WEYMOUTH, Chairman.

[B]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECEIVING WOMEN AS MESSENGERS.

Your committee appointed on the question of receiving ladies as messengers to this body, beg leave to report: That we recommend the postponement of this question until the next annual session of this Association, and that a committee of three be appointed to report upon the same at that time.

A. B. COUCH, Chairman Committee.

[C.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Home Missions beg leave to make the following report:

The receipts in the treasury, and the corresponding enlargement of the work, have not been so fully realized as was anticipated a year ago. This was owing largely to the fearful epidemic which swept over large portions of our Southern country. However, there has been progress in the work; not to the extent desired, but sufficient to justify the hope of a brighter future. The reports of missionaries show efficient labor and good results. Their salaries have been promptly paid.

CHINESE IN AMERICA.—There are now 150,000 or 200,000 Chinese in America. If it be our duty to send the Gospel to China, how much more is it our duty to Christianize the heathen at our own doors. The Home Board have already engaged the services of Rev. J. B. Hartwell, who has given twenty years of his life to China, as their missionary in this important field, but for want of funds he has not yet entered upon his labors.

INDIAN DEPARTMENT.—In this department additional missionaries have been appointed and some changes have been made. Rev. A. F. Ross has been commissioned to labor in the Choctaw Nation, among his own people. Rev. Lewis Cass, a former missionary of the Board, has again been employed in the same Nation. Rev. John McIntosh, of the Creek Nation, well known to the tribes, has been employed. The Creek Indian Mission School is now very encouraging. The claim of the Board against the United States for $2,546 87 has been secured by the passage of a bill through Congress for its payment. This, it is thought, with the funds on hand and which may be used on certain conditions, will be sufficient to establish the school upon a firm basis.

WOMEN'S WORK.—During the past year the Home Mission Board endeavored to organize Central Committees in various States, and through them Women's Missionary Societies in the churches. As yet, in this work, we can only report progress.

INCREASING DEMANDS.—Many appeals have gone up to the Home Board from the South and Southwest for assistance, but our Secretary in many instances has been unable to respond on account of a lack of funds. There are many important centres—cities and towns, and rural districts as well—which the Board has been compelled to neglect, simply because they have lacked the money. Thus we are suffering materials, that might be gathered into large and efficient churches, to drift away and be lost.

To see that the work under the control of the Home Mission Board has not been a failure, we need but glance at what has been accomplished in building up churches in some of our largest cities, such as Washington, New Orleans, Galveston, Atlanta, and others that might be named, besides a great deal of general missionary work which has been accomplished all over the Southern country.

From the Treasurer's report of the Home Mission Board we learn that the receipts during the past year were $16,200 47; disbursements, $16,200 47.

We have reasons for profound gratitude for the blessings of the past, and great encouragement to go forward in this department of Christian work. Let our prayers and labors be more earnest and our contributions more liberal.

Resolved, That this Association earnestly call the attention of the Home Mission Board to the wants of New Orleans as a very important point within the limits of our Association, and that the Committee on Home Missions make an earnest appeal to the Corresponding Secretary of the Home Mission Board in behalf of this field.

Respectfully, Z. A. OWENS, Chairman.

[D.]

REPORT OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

We deem it unnecessary to speak particularly in this report of the importance of the Sunday-school and the attention it deserves from all who would engage in successful work for the Master. We doubt not that the records of our churches will show that the majority of the accessions come from the Sunday-school. Downright hard work is essential to success in anything that is worth doing in the world, and the Sunday-school is by no means an exception. The church that would best fulfill her high mission must not neglect this department of labor. The Sunday-school furnishes a place and a work for all. If one is not prepared to teach certainly he can take the learner's place and thus aid in the work, and it will surely be a glad day for our churches when all her members, old and young, are found in the Sunday-school. The reports from the Sunday-schools in New Orleans and on the coast for the past year tell of interruption in the work from the prevalence of the epidemic, and of sickness and death; yet the testimony is that thereby was developed great affection on the part of scholars for the school, and this should incite to greater earnestness and zeal in the work. Shall we not, dear fellow-laborers, do more for the Master in this work during the coming year? Shall not our motto be "A Sunday-school in every church and every church-member in the Sunday-school."

Respectfully submitted. GEO. A. PEARCE, Chairman.

[E.]

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board submits the following report: There has been but one meeting of the Board during the past year, the object of which was to change the time of the meeting of the Association. No funds have been collected for work in the bounds of the Association. Notwithstanding, there has been some valuable work done within our bounds through the Mississippi State Mission board, and we here append the report of its missionary, Bro. Hamberlin, who has been laboring along the coast, and we recommend that Bro. Secretary Walne be invited to preach on missions to-night, and take up a collection for missions within the bounds of this Association. Respectfully, M. A. DEES, Chairman.

Report of mission work, by Eld. J. B. Hamberlin, in the bounds of the Gulf Coast Association, from May 1, 1878, to May 1, 1879, under the direction of the Mississippi State Mission Board:

Days of service of himself, 332; miles traveled, 2996; sermons preached, 198; religious visits, 430; religious or official letters written, 389; Sunday-school and other addresses, 48; baptized, 12; received by letter, 19; churches constituted—at Grand

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Bay, 1; Tracts distributed, pages, 3,553; church prayer meetings attended, 15; subscribers obtained for the Baptist Record, 3; Associations attended, 1; State Conventions attended, 1; cash collected on the field—for ministerial education, $9 95; for Gulf Coast Association, $17 00; for Eld. O. D. Bowen, $38 90; for foreign missions, $57 65; for Sunday-schools, $84 40; for church expenses, $1,777 75; for Mississippi State Mission Board, $431 05. Total cash, $2,416 70.

[F.]

LETTER FROM SEACOAST COLORED BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HANDSBORO, MISS., June 14, 1879.

To the Gulf Coast Baptist Association:

DEAR BRETHREN—As messengers we bring you Christian greetings from the Seacoast Baptist Association. We feel grateful to you for your cordial reception of us as messengers to your honorable body.

Our Association was organized at Pass Christian, Miss., June, 1877, with a combination of seven churches. We now have ten churches, with an average attendance of above twelve hundred, including the communicants of about five hundred.

The present work of our Association extends in Mississippi, over the counties of Hancock, Jackson and Harrison; and in Alabama, over a portion of Mobile county. Our churches largely border on the Gulf Coast.

We give special attention to home and foreign missions, ministerial education and Sabbath-school work. Since our organization we have sent annually small amounts to Bro. Tupper, of the Foreign Mission Board, to help Africa's work.

Dear brethren the burden of our work as an Association of churches is the moral, intellectual, religious and spiritual elevation of our people. The masses of our people need education, moral culture, religious instruction and spiritual elevation.

What we wish to ask of your Association and people is: "Will you help us to help ourselves?" We recognize the self-evident fact that our interests are common and that your aid is indispensable. In the name of our common Lord and Savior, whom we love and serve, we offer you our hands and our hearts. Deal with us as the Lord may direct and prosper you. Respectfully submitted.

TAYLOR FRYERSON,
A. F. OWENS,
Messengers.

[G.]

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS TO THE COLORED PEOPLE.

Your Committee on Relations to the Colored People present the following as their report:

There are 47 or more colored Baptist churches within the bounds of this Association, nearly all of which manifest a fraternal spirit towards their white brethren, and a desire to co-operate with them. Beside the colored churches in Mobile, along the coast, and elsewhere, there are in the city of New Orleans alone 40 churches. A Preachers' Conference of white and colored pastors has been organized and meets at Coliseum Place Baptist church semi-monthly, Dr. W. H. Tucker, chairman; M. C. Cole, secretary. Miss J. P. Moore, under the auspices of the Woman's Baptist Home Missionary Society of Chicago, a member of the First Baptist church, and her assistants are doing a much needed work among the colored Sabbath-schools and the colored women. We would also call attention to the appointment of Rev. S. W. Marston, by the Home Mission Society of New York, as superintendent of Freedmen's Missions in the South. We believe the appointment of Bro. Marston is a wise one, and the work assigned him to be of the first importance. And we hereby pledge our co-operation as pastors and churches to Bro. Marston, and earnestly pray for the blessing of God to rest upon him and upon his work.

Respectfully submitted, A. B. COUCH, Chairman.

[H.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee on Nominations beg leave to report the following Standing Executive Committees for the coming year, changing the name of Executive Board to Committee on Association Missions, and acting on the principle that the longer we can continue the same names on the same committees, especially those of the chairmen, the more good will be accomplished:

Association Missions—Elds. W. H. Tucker, M. C. Cole, and Breth. J. M Beadles, M. A. Dees, C. E. Thames.

Sunday-schools—Breth. G. A. Pearce, F. C. Gregory, J. T. Liddle.

Foreign Missions—Eld. H. C. Weymouth, Breth. J. E. Randolph, W. A. Whitfield.
Home Missions—Eld. Z. A. Owens, Breth. M. G. Hudson, T. G. Bush.
Bible and Colportage Work—Breth. A. H. Nelson, C. H. Strahn, Louis Kells.
Relations to Colored People—Eld. A. B. Couch, Breth. J. C. Bush, W. R. Washington.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. HAMBERLIN, Chairman.

[J.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

"A prince in Israel has fallen." Rev. N. W. Wilson, D. D., pastor of Coliseum Place Baptist church, and late Moderator of this Association, fell asleep Sept. 6, 1878, a victim of the great yellow fever epidemic of that year. From the moment that he commenced laboring within the bounds of this Association "he ceased not to warn every one, night and day, with tears. This for a space of nearly three years." Therefore, be it—

Resolved, That in the death of our beloved brother we are made to grieve and joy. Grieve, because we shall see his face no more on earth, nor have the benefits of his ripe experience and wise counsels; and joy, because of his triumph over the world, the flesh and the devil, and abundant entrance into the habitations of everlasting bliss.

Be it further Resolved, That we tender the bereaved wife and children of our brother the love and sympathy of this Association, and the assurance of our abiding faith that He, in whose service our brother laid down his life, will prove, indeed to them Father and husband, "*the* friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to send a written copy of these resolutions to the relatives of the deceased.

M. C. COLE, Chairman.

TAKE NOTICE.

Church clerks are requested to report next year on every item mentioned in our present statistics; also to send a report of Sunday-school statistics to Bro. G. A. PEARCE, Mobile, Ala., on or about April 1, 1880, for the preceding twelve months.

The special attention of the churches is invited to all errors or deficiencies apparent in their respective statistics, and correct the same in their next letter.

The Association will meet with the Coliseum Place Church, New Orleans, on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in April, 1880.

FINANCIAL.

CHURCHES.	Associational Purposes.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Miscellaneous.	Gulf Coast Association.	Total.
Bay St. Louis	$1 00	$ 4 00	$.....	$.....	$.....	$ 5 00
Bethany	2 00	5 00	.....	8 64	.....	15 64
Biloxi	2 50	.....	4 50	66 80	.....	73 80
Broad Street	5 00	3 75	14 40	1,240 26	20 00	1,283 41
Coliseum	5 00	51 25	163 70	3,927 65	4 75	4,152 35
First Church	5 60	7 65	19 60	445 15	.....	477 40
Handsboro	2 50	.....	17 30	203 10	7 30	230 20
Mandeville	2 50	5 00	.....	45 40	.....	52 90
Moss Point	2 50	2 50	15 00	169 35	.....	189 35
Ocean Springs	2 50	.....	10 00	84 90	.....	97 40
Palmetto Street	5 00	101 85	25 00	960 40	.....	1,092 25
Scranton	2 50	2 10	3 00	79 75	.....	87 35
St. Francis Street	.....	.....	.....	4,804 00	.....	4,804 00
Union	1 00	3 55	.....	.....	.....	4 55

Sunday-School Statistics, for Twelve Months Ending May 1, 1879.

NAMES.	LOCATION.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	Officers and teachers.	Scholars.	Average attendance.	Largest attendance.	Smallest attendance.	No. of conversions.	Amount of collections.	Amount given to missions.	Am't for expenses of S. S.	Books in library.	No. copies of Papers Taken.				
													Baptist Teacher.	Kind Words.	Our Little Ones.	Other papers.	Lesson Leaves.
Bay St. Louis	Bay St. Louis, Miss.	No school															
Bethany	Whistler, Ala	J. Z. Gaston	17	123	85	123	20		$ 71 00		$ 71 00	100		50			40
Broad Street	Mobile, Ala	M. G. Hudson	9	70					51 50		51 50		10	75			
Brook Cedron	Fish River, Ala	Miss M. E. Leavens	1	15													
Biloxi	Biloxi, Miss	G. B. Elder	5	25	20	28	5	2	4 50								
Coliseum Place	New Orleans, La	R. H. Browne	29	312	149	270	26	1	127 55	25 00	75 98	700	11			500	250
First Church	New Orleans, La	F. C. Gregory	11	121	77	115	18		49 10	8 55	40 55						88
Friendship	Dog River, Ala	R. F. Farnell	8	50													
Handsboro	Handsboro, Miss	J. T. Liddle	16	71	38	69	22	2	18 20			250		25		30	60
Moss Point	Moss Point, Miss	H. E. Anderson	7	90	40				54 85		54 85			50		25	
Ocean Springs	Ocean Springs, Miss.		4	30										20		20	
Palmetto Street	Mobile, Ala	G. A. Pearce	18	176	110	125	46	3	84 88	26 85	58 00		18	100	60		140
Scranton	Scranton, Miss	M. B. Richmond	12	100	53	80	10	1	33 75					50		25	
Shell Bank	Baldwin county, Ala	H. P. Hanson	4	20													
St. Francis street	Mobile, Ala	E. A. Shaffer	26	289	115	222	17	4	76 80				30	125	60		100
Union	Mobile county, Ala.																
	Totals		167	1492				13	$572 13	$65 50	$351 88	1050	69	505	110	600	670

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	When constituted.	LOCATION.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERK'S P. O.	SABBATH OF WORSHIP.	Adt'ns.			Diminutions.				
							Baptism.	Letter.	Restored.	Letter.	Excluded.	Death.	Erasure.	Total Membership.
Bay St. Louis	1877	Bay St. Louis, Miss..	H. C. Weymouth.	A. J. Whitfield.	Bay St. Louis, Miss.	.....	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	....
Bethany.....	1878	Whistler, Ala.....	Wm. Spence.....	E. P. H. Judd..	Whistler, Ala.....	Every.....	..	6	..	8	4	4	6	116
Biloxi.....	1875	Biloxi, Miss.....	J. B. Hamberlin..	G. B. Elder.....	Biloxi, Miss....	Fourth	6	1	..	..	..	1	..	22
Broad Street.	1856	Mobile, Ala.....	None.....	H. E. Wallace..	Mobile, Ala.....	.....	..	3	..	9	5	7	2	159
Coliseum	1852	New Orleans, La....	W. H. Tucker	Louis Kells.....	New Orleans, La....	Every	2	5	1	6	..	5	..	250
First Church.	....	New Orleans, La....	M. C. Cole.....	J. F. Randolph .	New Orleans, La....	Every	1	5	2	1	3	3	..	127
Handsboro ..	1874	Handsboro, Miss....	J. B. Hamberlin ..	Samuel Taylor..	Handsboro, Miss....	First..... ...	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Mandeville..	1878	Mandeville, La	H. C. Weymouth..	M. J. Sharp.....	Mandeville, La.....	2d and 4th..	6	..	..	..	..	2	..	15
Moss Point..	1874	Moss Point, Miss....	J. B. Hamberlin..	E. Sandiford.. .	Moss Point, Miss....	Third	1	3	..	2	1	2	..	46
Oce'n Springs	....	Ocean Springs, Miss	J. B. Hamberlin..	S. Bradford.	Ocean Springs, Miss.	First..... ...	4	3	..	6	..	2	..	38
Palmetto St.	1872	Mobile, Ala.....	Z. A. Owens.....	O. W. Couch....	Mobile, Ala.....	Every.....	5	9	..	8	..	4	..	183
Scranton	1877	Scranton, Miss.....	J. B. Hamberlin..	J. Denmark	Scranton, Miss.....	Third	1	4	..	3	..	1	..	24
St. Francis St	1845	Mobile, Ala.....	J. O'B. Lowry....	W. E. Brown...	Mobile, Ala.....	Every.....	5	2	..	9	..	..	..	335
Union.....	1869	Mobile County, Ala.	B. R. Jackson....	Noel Turner....	Grand Bay, Ala.....	First.....	6	..	..	..	2	2	..	56
			Totals,.....	.....	.....	.....	39	42	3	53	15	34	8	1410

CONSTITUTION

RULES OF ORDER